

REMARKS

This Response is in reply to the Office Action dated January 27, 2005. In the Office Action, Applicants noted that Claims 6 and 23 to 73 filed in a Preliminary Amendment dated January 12, 2005, had not been considered. Applicants brought this observation to the Examiner's attention on February 1, 2005, and followed up with the Examiner on April 7, 2005. The Examiner has courteously agreed to provide Applicants with a non-final Office Action, if necessary, upon examination of Claims 6 and 23 to 73. Applicants have submitted herewith a copy of the Preliminary Amendment filed on January 27, 2005.

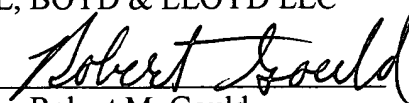
In response to comments made by the Examiner regarding Claims 45 to 59, 63 to 65 and 71 to 73 being directed to species that have been restricted and not elected, Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are directed to the elected species of neural precursor cells and are not directed to non-elected glial-restricted or neuronal-restricted cell populations. Specifically, Claim 45, from which Claims 46-59 depend, is directed, in part, to a culture of mammalian neural precursor cells; Claims 63 to 65 each depend from Claim 60 directed, in part, to a stem cell line of the central nervous system of a mammal comprising at least one cell, wherein said cell maintains the multipotential capacity to differentiate into a neuron, astrocyte or oligodendrocyte; and Claims 71 to 73 each depend from Claim 68 directed, in part, to a stem cell line of the central nervous system of a mammal comprising at least one cell, wherein said cell maintains the multipotential capacity to differentiate into a neuron, astrocyte or oligodendrocyte. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 45 to 59, 63 to 65 and 71 to 73 are directed to the elected species.

An earnest endeavor has been made to place this application in condition for allowance, and such allowance is courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any questions related to this Response, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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BY



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